

Grade 6
Drawing Class

Quarter 1- 20/08- 15/10

What do we already know about the work and process of the artist Stillo Noir?

Oma

I know that the artist Stillo Noir uses a variation of different techniques, inspiration from nature, and the colors black and white to create beautiful artwork. Some of Stillo Noir's artworks are up to a huge scale, some of them even cover whole walls. I can see that Stillo Noir has a huge arsenal of different techniques that could be very unique.

Ziwoo

I know that the artist Stillo Noir only uses, and likes to use black and white to draw, and gets inspired by designs, and nature, also she is good at shaping the design, and making some new designs out of them.

Aoi

I know that the artist Stillo Noir gets inspired by many things in nature. She also draws on walls. Her artwork is big most of the time. She also doesn't just copy the thing she is going to draw, she changes it a little bit.

Rinnosuke

You mainly use black and white and I think that your drawings are very beautiful. Your drawings are mainly inspired by nature and by taking pictures.

Moritaka

Stillo Noir takes inspiration from actual objects in real life such as plants, and buildings.

Sam

Stillo Noir mainly works in black and white.

Matthew

Stillo Noir likes to work with patterns.

Yahiro

Stillo Noir likes to draw wet things.

Sosuke, Yu, Kento

She usually uses lots of lines.

She usually doesn't use colors.

She mostly gets her ideas from daily life.

She uses markers and pens.

She draws mainly in Switzerland and Spain.

About our drawing project:**Sosuke, Yu, Kento**

We used POSCA pens and drawing techniques like line, we created lines by using both thick and thin markers.

Oma

I want Stillo Noir to know about my artwork that I like using black and white because I saw the true beauty of black and white in Stillo Noirs artwork. Before I saw Stillo Noirs work I used to think that black and white looked very bland and boring. However black and white could be very interesting and unique.

Ziwoo

I want Stillo Noir to know that I want to improve on clean touches, detailed lines, and to make my drawing clean, not messy.

Rinn

I like drawing with lots of colors and I also like drawing lots of complicated patterns. I got inspired by your drawing because you create lots of complicated drawings.

Aoi

My artwork takes a lot of time and I make mistakes a lot. I also feel that I am not very good at drawing but I try my best but sometimes it doesn't go as I want to. I would like to get feedback on how to improve my mushroom drawing.

What questions can we ask to help us to further understand Stillo Noir's work and artistic process?

Sam

- How long have you been in the art industry for?
- How long does a piece of artwork take you to create?
- Do you prefer working in detail or using bold lines?

Moritaka

- How do you draw really thin lines?

Matthew

- Do you know how to draw in another style?

Yahiro

- What is your favorite piece of artwork that you have created?

Sosuke, Yu, Kento

- How many days does a single artwork take?
- Why did you start drawing?
- How many drawings have you completed?
- Why don't you add colors to your drawing?
- ❖ Do you ever draw imaginary characters?
- ❖ Who inspired you to draw and be an artist?
- How do you become a good artist?
- Do you have any advice for us?
- When did you become an artist?
- What kind of markers do you use?
- What is your daily routine as an artist?

Rinn

- How long does it take to finish one drawing?
- Do you use tessellations?

Aoi

- How do you make fewer mistakes drawing your artwork? Also how do you make the drawing so realistic and balanced?

Oma

- What was your first artwork?
- What caused you to use black and white as your main colors?

Stillo Noir artist responses



Stillo Noir
Illustration & Pattern Design
www.stillonoir.com
[@stillonoir](https://twitter.com/stillonoir)



Feedback for Grade 6 artists:

Wow! Wow, your pieces are amazing! I'm so impressed. You have such a strong eye for detail, and your drawings are so original! Also reading all of your questions and reflections brought a huge smile to my face.

Your attention to details is beautiful. I also love the way you mixed colors, or had fun with hidden little details (like the hidden 'Oma' and smiley face in that one drawing.

How long have you been in the art industry for?

That depends on how you define the art industry: I've been a graphic designer ever since I graduated from college (6 years ago), 3 years ago I started doing illustration for work, and in the past 2 years I've been really focusing on art, pattern design, murals and illustration as my full time job.

How long does a piece of artwork take you to create?

That depends on each piece! An average A4 drawing can take between 1-4 hours, though these things are hard to quantify. For example, do I count the time I spent going on walks, jotting down ideas, and sketching too? Or just the moment I started drawing the finished piece?

As for murals, it'll depend a lot on the size of the mural, the texture of the wall, and how detailed the design is: One mural took me 7 hours to complete, whereas another took 6 days!

Do you prefer working in detail or using bold lines?

Both! Each approach is good for different designs.

How do you draw really thin lines?

With really thin pens, patience, and care.

Do you know how to draw in another style?

Yes! In fact, for the longest time I drew mostly in other styles, and with different materials, because I was taught that those styles were 'better' (whatever that means!). In art school I did a bit of everything, from painting, to sculpture, to sewing, animation, graphic design and basically anything you can imagine. But secretly, I would be drawing patterns in a sketchbook I carried with me everywhere. I thought those were just doodles for fun, because I didn't see anything else like it being taken seriously in the art world. It's not until I started sharing my work more widely, and realized many people *did* like this style, that I gave myself permission to explore what I'd always loved making the most!

Moral of the story: It's good to learn different styles and expand as an artist, but don't forget to listen to your gut instincts. Just because it doesn't already exist in the world doesn't mean it's not valid, it just means you'll have to pave the way for it!

What is your favorite piece of artwork that you have created?

That's a tough one, as I like a lot of my work, and in different ways. My favorite mural so far is probably the long, leafy botanical one I made in Switzerland in June.

Why did you start drawing?

I've been drawing ever since I could hold a pen, and I never stopped! As a kid I would wake up early and draw for hours while everyone was still sleeping.

How many drawings have you completed?

I wish there was a way to keep track, but in my lifetime it's definitely in the thousands of drawings!

Why don't you add colors to your drawing?

I've found that the best way to communicate how I see the world is through black and white: I love the contrast, simplicity and purity it brings. It's a way to focus entirely on the details, the lines and the shapes, without being distracted by colors and tones. Don't get me wrong, I LOVE color in other people's work, but I just happen to see the world through its textures and details, so I find that black and white is the most effective way to put them front and center.

Do you ever draw imaginary characters?

I used to! When I was younger I would invent my own pokemons, or draw imaginary people and write a whole backstory to their lives. I haven't done that in a while, but that was a lot of fun!

Who inspired you to draw and be an artist?

Lots and lots of people, too many to keep track of. Growing up I was a big fan of Chuck Close and his incredibly detailed paintings. Now I'm inspired a lot by Shantell Martin, and how she creates beautiful black and white pieces with continuous lines. Ultimately though I'm inspired by many people at once: Some for their artistic style, some for their work ethic, some for their patterns, some for their murals etc.

How do you become a good artist?

It's hard to qualify what it means to be a 'good' artist, because there are infinite ways to define that, and each of them is very personal. But ultimately you get a lot better at building your skills, honing your craft and communicating your message with lots and lots of practice.

Do you have any advice for us?

Have fun! Making art should above all things be a positive experience, whether that's bringing you joy, helping you to relax, or whatever it looks like to you. It's great to learn new skills and push yourself, but at the end of the day remember to do things that make you happy. Besides, if you're enjoying it, you'll practice more, and naturally get better from there.

I think in the art world there can be a lot of pressure to create art a certain way, to have it be deep and confusing and mysterious, but if that doesn't feel right to you, then follow what does. For example, we all like music, but we all listen to different types of music, and one kind isn't better than the other. It's the same with art: Whatever makes you happy, or makes you feel something, or teaches you something new, is the right kind of art!

What kind of markers do you use?

It depends a lot on the surface and size of the piece I'm making. When it's pen and paper, I use a mix of Faber Castell pens (especially sizes 1.5 and b) and Uni Pin Fine Line markers (especially size 0.7). On canvas I like Pebeo acrylic markers, and for murals on a very smooth surface I use refillable Montana Street Paint markers of all sizes.

What is your daily routine as an artist?

It changes everyday, but here's a general look:

- I usually kick off the day on Instagram (my artist account), responding to messages and comments, and looking at other people's new work.
- Then with a cup of tea by my side I check my emails in the studio (which is in my apartment).
- Next will either be working on a client project, applying to potential clients (more emails!), some work calls, livestreaming a project I'm working on etc.
- I fit lunch somewhere in here.
- The fun part is when I get to draw! This is where I pull up some of the sketches I'd made to remember previous ideas, and actually get to draw them out fully.
- The less fun part is all the administrative work: Reading contracts, sending out invoices (to ensure I get paid), doing my taxes - yuck!
- In the early evening I often share some recent work on Instagram.
- On the weekends I'll usually spend a full day just creating, usually large scale on canvas, or experimenting with new materials (last weekend it was painting on bags!)

Because I work for myself, I can make my own schedule, and so it changes from day to day. For example, on a beautiful sunny day, I might go for a walk in the park in the middle of the day. Or if I meet up with a friend for tea in the afternoon, I might work in my office a little longer at night. Sometimes I even swap out a week day of work with a weekend day, so I can go to the beach, on a hike, or to shops without all the crowds!

Do you use tessellations?

I haven't used specific tools to repeat patterns so far, but some of the more geometric hand-drawn patterns I've created sometimes end up being kind of like tessellations.

How do you make fewer mistakes drawing your artwork?

Practice! There's no shortcut to it. The more you do something the better you get at it, and the steadier your hand gets. I still make lots of mistakes, but I just learned better how to 'hide' or fix them: For one, the more detailed your work is, the less a tiny mistake will get noticed ;)

How do you make the drawing so realistic and balanced?

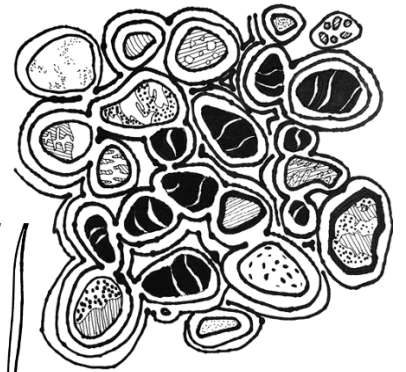
Again: Practice! The more you try things out, the better you get at figuring out how to keep things balanced. And I'm still learning and improving every day!

Drawing project development

Research



Researching and experimenting with the drawing techniques of the artist Stillo Noir.

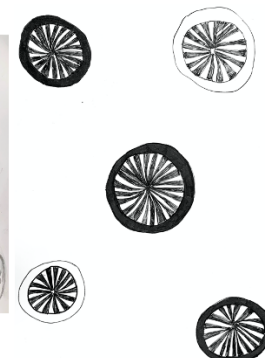
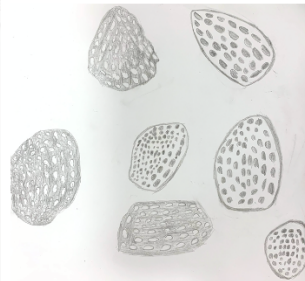
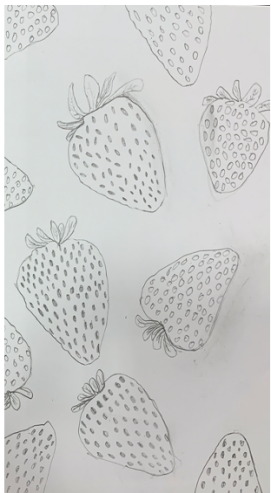
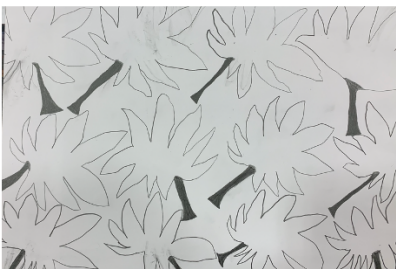
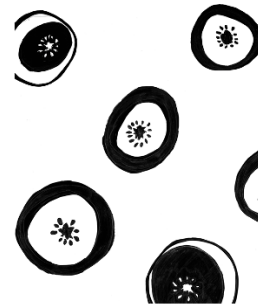
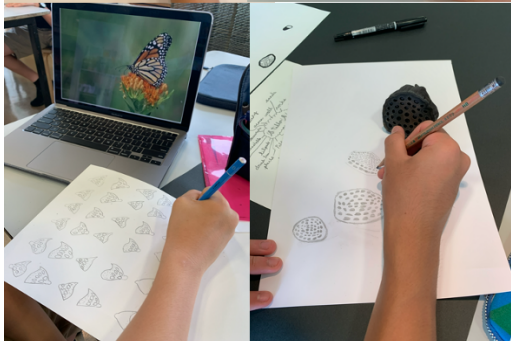
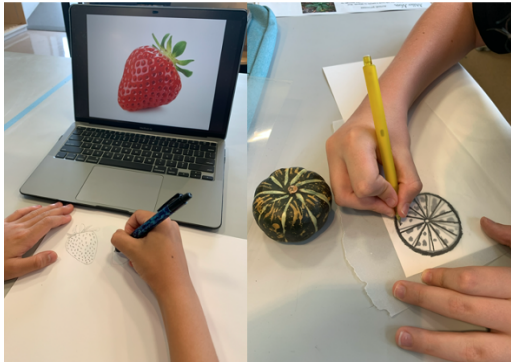


Stillo Noir

- pine
- dried tree
- black wall
- waves
- floor
- plates
- tree trunk
- recovered
- tree
- manho
- wreeds
- algae
- wet leaves
- pellets
- moss
- shells
- liken
- sand
- door
- flowers
- water marks
- feather
- clams
- fence
- windan

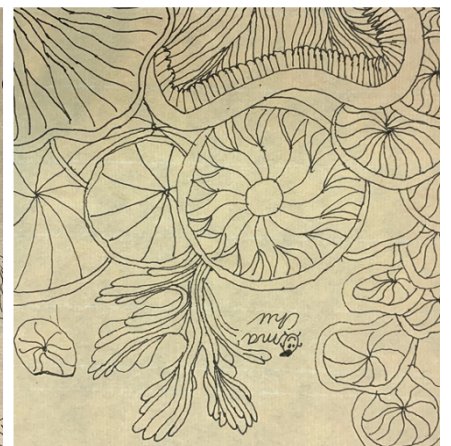
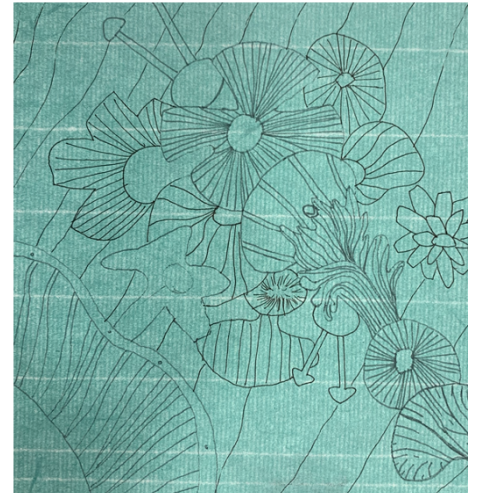
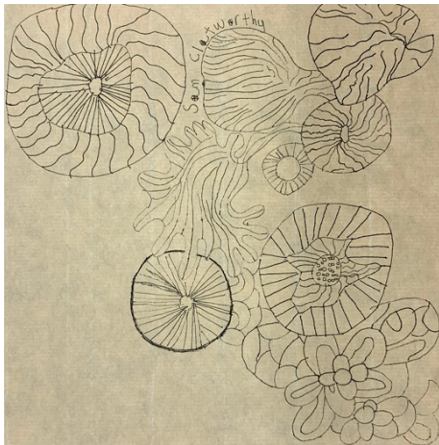
Experimenting with repeat pattern

Experimenting with creating repeated patterns using natural motifs.



Exploring line drawing techniques

Developing practise compositions inspired by fungi using a range of line drawing techniques.



Creating final compositions







